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AKNS  
9/21/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Klaus M. Irion	
Serial No.: 09/488,500	Conf. No.: 4514	Filing Date: January 20, 2000
Title of Application:	Endoscopic Instrument For Performing Endoscopic Procedures	
Group Art Unit: 3739	Examiner: Denise M. Pothier	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

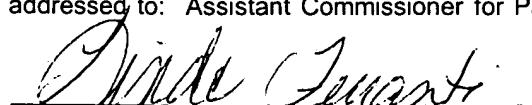
**RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed March 1, 2002. Please enter this Response to Official Action in the above-referenced application. Filed herewith is a Petition for a three-month extension of time and accompanying fee. Applicant believes that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this Response. However, if any fee is due please charge Deposit Account No. 19-4516.

Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents; Washington, DC 20231.

August 21, 2002

  
Linda A. Ferranti